

## **High Desert Rovers of New Mexico Club Meeting Minutes**

**April 15, 2003  
Quarters Restaurant on Wyoming Boulevard**

The meeting started with President, Michael Robertson introducing our guest Tom Dill.

Minutes from last month's meeting were accepted and seconded.

Treasurer's report from Steve Grabiell noted that the balance was \$864.

Updates from the La Bajada trip on March 15 by Henry stated that La Bajada was "not too challenging." Dan Barton noted that his exhaust system broke down after splitting from the group and that he and his wife had to wait until the engine of his vehicle cooled down before finishing the trek by stopping by the Santa Fe dealership.

Ken Rice gave an update on the Las Cruces trip and stated that Henry's Hummer wouldn't have made it. Tim Rainwater had the same problem with his suspension (air bag popping off) as he did in Moab and was surprised at the degree of difficulty of some of the trails the club did. Scott mentioned the "I told you so Canyon" referring to Barbara's warnings to Ken. Participants enjoyed the outing and made some friends not to mention the camaraderie especially when singing "That's Amore."

Scott Hutchinson told the group about the venture after dark to Cedro Peak with Todd Pfortmiller, Mike and Susan. He joked about how easy the photo's compressed on the computer (night pictures). Scott told how the trail was not challenging but the trail was overgrown and that Todd wanted to wax his car on the way home from the pin striping he received on the trail.

The update on the Moab trip scheduled for the first weekend in May was given by Jackie. Due to Rob having to go to Land Rover tech school, both Jackie and Rob will be unable to attend the Moab trip but arrangements had been made with the Rover Riders of Colorado to meet our group there at the City Market. Scott asked how challenging the trails would be, Rob answered that the Rover Riders take into consideration the groups capabilities and experience and that they usually split up in groups and do different trails with varying levels of challenge. Jackie reminded the group that if reservations for a hotel were needed that she needed confirmations tonight in order to reserve those rooms.

Susan Kitsch reminded everyone that Saturday, May 15 is the Taos outing with Todd Kendrick. She stated that interested participants would get together about 7:30 a.m. and make their way to Taos. This event is scheduled as a one day event, but if participants would like to stay overnight this could be a two day.

The discussion about the fund use was brought up again. Several members had brought up suggestions of using the funds for special equipment for the club: a MIG welder or air compressor.

Others would like to see the funds used for the Canyon De Chelly in September to help pay guide fees.

It was noted that with special equipment for the club someone would have to be responsible for the storage and care of the equipment.

Barbara Hoffman suggested that an air pump would be a very useful tool for the club. Motion to buy an air pump. Not seconded. The discussion went on to whether or not the purchase was a want or a need? It was unclear whether or not the club really would benefit from the use of an air pump (time wise).

It was decided to table the issue and to hold on to the treasury for the time being and let it grow.

Chris Hoffman took the motion for air pump off the floor.

Mike Robertson noted that from his observations that a motion to save the club funds for now with a rider about the possible use of funds for the Canyon de Chelly event was needed. The motion was made and seconded.

Some members wanted to know what other clubs did with their money. Rob Dassler stated that the Rover Riders in Colorado pick up the tab for some of their holiday parties and also support land issues that help keep trails open, although Colorado seems to be having a bigger problem with land/trails being closed off. (Southwest Four Wheel Drive (SWFWD) Association disperses some of their funds for legal issues concerning land use.)

Scott stated that a problem with certain allocations of funds is that they may not be spread evenly/fairly among club members, for example those not being able to join the group on trips sponsored by club funds.

Michael stated that we may need to rethink next year renewal amount and maybe lower dues.

Next club meeting agenda will include land use groups, legislative groups, and possible support of these issues.

Christine asked that next months meeting take place in the East mountain area for the club members that are from that area. Noted.

Meeting adjourned.